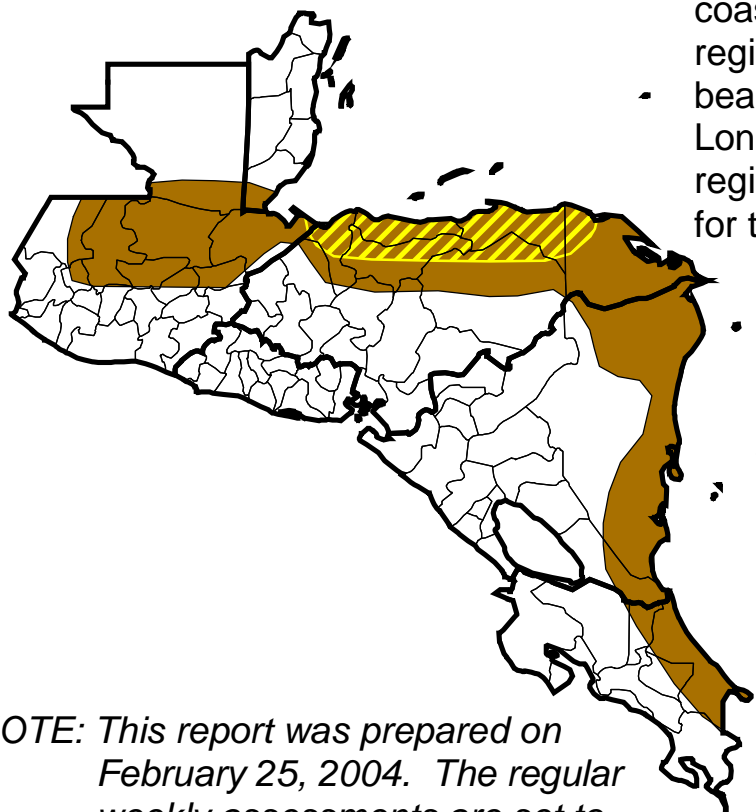


# Special Weather Hazards Assessment

for Central America and Haiti

Valid: January - March, 2004



1) Little rain has fallen since early December along the northern coastal and southern peninsula regions in Haiti. The third season

- bean crop may be affected.

Long-range models suggests that Haiti and surrounding regions may have above normal rainfall and temperatures for the impending main growing season.

2) Caribbean coastal rains have been

- below normal throughout much of the region since late December. Apante or third season crops may be affected.

The yellow-hatched regions indicate where recent rains have helped to alleviate some of the dryness. Long-range models suggest that the impending Primera season rainfall may begin slow, but then possibly be above normal during the mid-season.

*NOTE: This report was prepared on February 25, 2004. The regular weekly assessments are set to begin in April.*



**Climate Prediction Center**  
National Centers for Environmental Prediction  
National Weather Service